

STORMS AND WEATHER WARNINGS

WASHINGTON FORECAST DISTRICT

There were no gales along the Atlantic or east Gulf coasts during the first 10 days of the month, although storm warnings were issued for the region from Sandy Hook, N. J., to the Virginia Capes on the 2d. On the morning of the 11th a disturbance was central over West Virginia and moving east-northeastward with increasing intensity. Anticipating a further increase in both intensity and extent, storm warnings were ordered displayed from Jacksonville, Fla., to Eastport, Me. This storm was attended by west and northwest gales from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod, the highest velocity reported being 46 miles an hour from the northwest at Cape Henry, Va.

The next warnings were issued for the north Atlantic coast from Sandy Hook, N. J., to Eastport, Me., in connection with a disturbance that moved rapidly down the St. Lawrence Valley. However, the only wind of gale force reported was 38 miles from the southwest at Eastport, Me. Again, on the morning of the 23d warnings were displayed from Delaware Breakwater to Eastport, Me., because of the rapid advance of a disturbance of considerable intensity that at that time was central over western Lake Erie. This disturbance diminished in intensity, however, during the day, and no winds of gale force were reported.

By far the most severe storm of the month was that of the 26th in the Northeastern States. This disturbance moved eastward along the northern border with gradually increasing intensity until the morning of the 26th, when it was centered over southwestern Quebec. At this time, a secondary was developing over southern New York, and it moved rapidly northeastward, gaining great strength during the day, and at 8 p. m. was centered near Eastport, Me., where the barometer read 28.84 inches. Westerly gales prevailed throughout the lower Lake region, upper Ohio Valley, and in the Middle Atlantic and North Atlantic States. The highest wind velocity reported was 72 miles an hour from the west at Buffalo and New York City. Northwest storm warnings were displayed from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod at 9 a. m. and north of Cape Cod to Eastport at noon of the 26th. No strong winds occurred before the passage of the storm center, inasmuch as the pressure gradient to the eastward was slight.

There were no general cold waves during February and only three of quite limited extent. The first of these was in the northern portions of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont during the 1st-2d; the second was in the southern Appalachian region during the 11th-12th; and the last in northern New England and northern and central New York during the 26th-27th. Cold-wave warnings were issued on the 1st and 26th, but not on the 11th.

Frost warnings were issued for extreme northwestern Florida and the southern portions of Alabama and Mississippi on the 2d, 3d, 11th, 12th, 17th, and 26th, and for southern Georgia and all or part of northern Florida on the 3d, 11th, 12th, 18th, and 26th. The warnings were extended to central Florida on the 11th and to Miami on the 12th. The most important warnings were those of the 11th and 12th. Heavy to killing frost and freezing temperature occurred as far south as extreme northern Florida on the 12th, and to Orlando, Fla., on the 13th.—*C. L. Mitchell.*

CHICAGO FORECAST DISTRICT

With respect to comparative freedom from severe weather conditions, the month of February, 1925, in the Chicago Forecast District resembled its immediate predecessor, January. Furthermore, most of the month was unusually mild and dry, this being especially true in northwestern sections. Only one cold wave of consequence occurred, and, likewise, only one storm that could be classed as at all severe, visited Lake Michigan, where more or less navigation goes on throughout the winter.

Cold-wave warnings.—Cold-wave warnings were issued on but three days, namely, the 15th, 25th, and 28th. The first and last mentioned were for limited areas in the northwestern portion of the district, while that on the 25th embraced a considerable area in the middle Missouri and extreme upper Mississippi Valleys and Upper Lake Region. In most cases the cold waves occurred as forecast, but the warnings should have been extended over additional territory in some instances. At the very close of the month a new cold wave was about to sweep southward over the district.

Storms on Lake Michigan.—Several low-pressure areas crossed the Great Lakes region during the month, but only one disturbance attained the proportions of a storm. Advisory warnings were issued on the 1st, 8th, 18th, 20th, 22d, 24th, 25th, and 26th. The storm of the 25th-26th was rather severe. Not only did it increase greatly in intensity as it reached the Lake Region from the far Northwest, but conditions were accentuated because of the presence of a marked area of high pressure in its rear. West and northwest gales occurred in this connection over most of the lake.

Livestock warnings.—It was not necessary to issue any special advices for the benefit of livestock interests, and no inimical weather conditions are known to have occurred.

Special forecasts.—A special forecast as to temperature and snowfall was made for the benefit of the U. S. Army Air Service in connection with their winter maneuvers in Michigan near the middle of the month, and we learn that this proved to be of considerable assistance.—*C. A. Donnel.*

NEW ORLEANS FORECAST DISTRICT

Moderate conditions prevailed, without severe cold waves or storms. The only storm warnings were issued on indications of the p. m. map of the 26th, when a moderate depression over West Texas was advancing southeastward and a fairly steep barometric gradient extended to an area of high pressure over the Missouri Valley; northwest storm warnings were issued for the Texas coast but the winds did not reach verifying velocity. Small-craft warnings were displayed on the east coast of Texas on the 2d and on the Louisiana coast on the 27th.

Warnings for moderate cold waves were issued on the 1st for the northern portion of the district, on the 2d for Port Arthur and Houston, Tex., and on the 10th and 16th for the northwestern portion of the district except the north portion of west Texas. These warnings were mostly verified. Warnings issued on the morning of the 25th for a moderate cold wave in the northern portion of the district and at night on the 26th for Arkansas, East Texas, and the southeastern portion of West Texas, failed of verification in most parts of the areas named, the change to